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WAYS and MEANS

Whereby His MAJESTY may

Man His NAVY

WITH

Ten Thousand able SAILORS,

ON

Short Notice, with less Expence to the Government than at present, and entirely to the Benefit and Satisfaction of the Merchants.

K. Gt. Britain & Ireland - Navy

LONDON:

Printed, and Sold by *J. Roberts* near the *Oxford Arms* in *Warwick-Lane*, MDCCXXVI.

(Price *Six Pence.*)

TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
JAMES
EARL OF
BERKLEY,

Principal Lord Commiſſioner of the Admiralty, Knight of the moſt Noble Order of the Garter, and one of His Majeſty's moſt Honourable Privy Council.

MY LORD,

THE high Station in which you ſo remarkably exert Your ſelf, and joyn to your conſummate Knowledge in *Naval Affairs* the greateſt Aſ-

ſiduity in putting thoſe of *England* in the moſt flouriſhing Condition, commands the Addreſs of the following Thoughts to your Lordſhip, as they relate ſolely to the Benefit and Glory of the *Navy*, and are written with the moſt ſincere Zeal, from thoſe two great Principles, on which your Lordſhip, only in a higher Degree, has always acted, the Honour and Grandeur of the Crown, and the Proſperity of the People. Whoever proceeds on theſe Motives, carries with him no ſmall Recommendation to the Favour of a

Good

Good Man, the Author therefore of this, promiſes himſelf your Lordſhip's Indulgencefor his Attempt, however feebly executed; a true Zeal mitigates the Want of great Abilities, and a warm Heart the Defects of the Judgment.

AS your Lordſhip has not only render'd Your ſelf amiable to every honeſt Subject of *Great Britain*, by your early application to the Study of its true Intereſt in its *Maritime* Strength, ſo is it no leſs Matter of Delight to them, to behold the Means of their Security continued under the Care

and

and Direction of a Nobleman whoſe leaſt Pretenſions to their Applauſe and Adoration are the Honours of his Birth. Nor can they but think the Truſt your Lordſhip is ſo deſervedly inveſted with, among the other Bleſſings of his Majeſty's Reign, a very ſtrong Inſtance of his tendereſt Regard for the Happineſs and Support of the Kingdom.

THAT it may be late before Fate deprives our Country of your Lordſhip's Perſonal Abilities and Aſſiſtance, and when we muſt ſubmit to ſuch a Loſs, that Heaven may in-

inſpire the Succeſſors in your important Truſt, with an Emulation of your Lordſhip's great Character, in purſuing the Publick Happineſs, is the ſincere Wiſh of

My LORD,

Your Lordſhips moſt

Devoted, and moſt Obedient

Humble Servant,

Jeſt Publiſhed,

The modern Navigator's Compleat Tutor, or a Treatiſe of the whole Art of Navigation in its Theory and Practice, Curioſity and Utility. Containining, I. *Domeſtick* or *Coaſting* Navigation, ſundry Notes of the Moon's Motions, Calender, Tides, &c. II. *Theoretical Navigation* by various Methods, *viz. Geometrical, Logarithmatical, Inſtrumental, Tabular*, and by the *Pen* only (without Tables or Inſtruments) Together with *Practical Aſtronomy*, the Deſcription, Conſtruction and Uſe of the Plain and *Mercater's* Charts, and other Nautical Inſtruments. III. *Practical Navigation*, the Application of the *Theory* to *Practice*; in keeping a Sea-Journal, the working a Day's Log at Sea, in all Caſes of Winds and Weather, making a ſhortning Sail, Trying, Hulling, &c. And the manner of making allowance for all known Impediments whatſoever, (with Rational Corrections) Illuſtrated with full, proper and practical Examples of the ſame. The whole more amply and plainly demonſtrated, than in any Treatiſe of this kind extant.

To which are added,

All neceſſary Tables, *Nautical* and *Aſtronomical*, for the Mariner's Practice, by Inſpection. Alſo an Appendix, touching Pleaſant and Critical Queſtions in Navigation; with divers other Things both Curious and Uſeful in this Art.

By *JOSHUA KELLY*, Mariner, and Teacher of the MATHEMATICKS.

The Royal Treaſury of England, or an Hiſtorical Account of all Taxes under what Denomination ſoever, from the Conqueſt to the preſent Year. Collected from the beſt Hiſtorians, as well ancient as modern, likewiſe from many valuable Manuſcripts in the *Cotton* and ſeveral other choice Libraries, and ſome peculiar Officers in this Kingdom. Containing a conſiderable Number of Particulars not to be found in printed Books. Shewing when the Crown was ſupply'd, and Impoſitions laid on the People, only by virtue of the King's Prerogative, at what Times the Houſe of Lords alone has done the ſame, and when reduc'd to the Parliamentary Method now eſtabliſh'd. Intermixt with ſome other remarkable Occurrances.

London, Printed for *J. Wilcox*, in *Little Britain*. 1726.

WAYS and MEANS,

WHEREBY

His Majeſty may man his *Navy* with Ten Thouſand able Sailors, &c.

THE happy Situation of *Great Britain*, and its boaſted Security from the Inſults of a Foreign Enemy, by its maritime Strength, added to its own natural Fortifications, cannot but engage every honeſt Member of the Community to contribute his beſt Wiſhes, and moſt zealous Endeavours towards the Preſervation of ſuch invaluable Bleſſings; nay, I inſiſt upon it, it behoves the Inhabitants of ſo ſtrong and flouriſhing a Nation, notwithſtanding it has for a long time, and ſtill ſeems to look down with

Contempt on any impotent Menaces of thoſe Kingdoms it may have occaſion to diſpute with, to be upon a conſtant and unwearied Guard, to maintain unimpaired that Advantage which Providence and the fine Diſpoſition of the People to naval Affairs, gives it over all other Countries; for we have Inſtances in Hiſtory, where Governments that have boaſted, and not without ſome Reaſon, the Strength of their Eſtabliſhment, not more from prudent and wholeſome Laws, than their own outward Bulwarks and Fortifications, have either thro' an Indolent Preſumption of Security, or too narrow an Encouragement to thoſe who are the moſt neceſſary towards improving or preſerving the Benefit of ſuch Fortifications, been unwarily ſurprized, and ſometimes entirely unhing'd by an Enemy they have been flatter'd by frequent Succeſſes to deſpiſe. *Great Britain* indeed is at this time, and has been for many Years amply provided with the moſt ready Precautions againſt the leaſt Danger of undergoing ſo unhappy and ſo irretrieveable a Revolution; but I hope, nevertheleſs, I ſhall not be judg'd either a timid or an unworthy Subject, if I ſhould uſe my ableſt Endeavours to propoſe, in a manner that might deſerve the leaſt Inſpection of the

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Legiſlative Body, a Method, whereby I humbly conceive, the preſent wiſe Adminiſtration may leave to lateſt Poſterity a Plan, which, if rightly followed and obſerved by them, will ſecure to them as infallible a Bulwark of Defence as that, which at this time not only reflects a Glory on our own Country, but commands both the Dread and Homage of all *Europe*. By this Bulwark of Security, which I would have to be left as a Legacy to ſucceeding Ages, I believe every *Engliſhman* who has the leaſt Knowledge of his own Country, will eaſily perceive, I mean only the Naval Force of *England* under the benign Influence of proper, certain and laſting Encouragement. The Land-Forces of *Great-Britain*, according to their yearly Eſtabliſhment, being no more than what may properly be ſaid to be in part for a neceſſary Guard to his Majeſty's Perſon, and to diſcountenance any evil Attempts from that Spirit of Faction which has too long lurk'd, and has ſometimes broke openly out amongſt thoſe whom their own ſiniſter Views of Intereſt, or their Bigotry to a malignant Set of Principles, render Enemies to all the virtuous Inclinations of a good Prince, and the beſt Abilities of an honeſt and able

Miniſtry. Very far am I from wiſhing the leaſt additional Aſſeſsment on the People, but on ſuch deſirable Terms, and to purchaſe ſuch valuable Ends as will make their Contributions as voluntary as they may be uſeful.

The Splendour of a Crown may in Countries that groan under an arbitrary Power, be thought to conſiſt more in the abject Vaſſalage and entire Reſignation of the Subjects to the abſolute Will and Authority of the Prince, than in the natural and voluntary Diſpoſition of them to render themſelves or their Sovereign in a Condition, to be either courted by the Neighbouring Nations for their Friendſhip, or dreaded for their Bravery, Reſolution and Power. In ours, under ſo well temper'd a Mixture of the ſeveral Branches of Government, where one Part bears ſo happy a Connection with, and is ſo ſtrong a Check (if any Occaſion ſhould ever happen for it) to any raſh or imprudent Steps of the other, the Magnificence and Grandeur of the Crown is the free Affection of the People, from a Conſciouſneſs of their being indebted to it for their Preſervation from any immediate Approach of Danger, and the moſt neceſſary Precautions againſt a future one. From the

Duty

Duty therefore which as an *Engliſhman* I owe to my Country, from the Pride I conceive at ſeeing it not only capable of ſecuring itſelf, but caſting a Dread into all others, I am led to offer the following Thoughts to the Publick. And I cannot believe but that the Generality of thoſe Perſons who may be more particularly and nearly intereſted in what I ſhall propoſe, will think I have not made Choice of an improper Seaſon at this Time to advance a few honeſt and zealous Obſervations on the Benefit of keeping up the naval Strength of this Kingdom. When his Majeſty in his moſt gracious Speech at the opening of this Seſſion of Parliament, recommended to the ſpeedieſt Care of the Houſe, the making an early Proviſion to enable him to fit out a ſtrong Fleet by the beginning of the Spring, it cannot be denied, but that the Parliament purſued the Royal Inſtructions with the moſt chearful Alacrity, nor has the Admiralty been leſs diligent and expeditious in taking all the moſt proper Meaſures in their Power, that the Parliamentary Proviſion might be laid out to the beſt Advantage, in obtaining a competent Number of the moſt able Sailors to man the Navy. Two Squadrons have already ſailed to thoſe

Parts where they may be moſt capable to act for the Benefit of the Nation and its Alliances, and another conſiderable one is at this time in a Readineſs to execute whatever the State of Affairs may require. That this is an indiſputable Evidence of our Strength and Security, preferable to that of any other Government, thoſe only who are Enemies to our Happineſs, and whoſe baſe Projects may be in danger of being diſappointed by it, will have the open Imprudence to diſallow. But if I preſume to ſhew a Method, whereby, in my humble Sentiments, the ſame Felicity may be obtained and preſerved on a much ſurer and more durable Foundation than at preſent, I flatter my ſelf, that I ſhall not riſque the Cenſure of any good and wiſe Man.

Were an Act of Parliament to be paſſed for eſtabliſhing Ten Thouſand able Seamen certain for ever for the King's Service, I ſhall venture to affirm, that I can plainly demonſtrate, that the Advantages which would accrue to every Part of the Nation in general from it, would render the extraordinary Expence of ſuch Eſtabliſhment, if any at all, very inconſiderable. Should any one, ſtartled at the very ſound of ſuch a large Number of Men,

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without giving himſelf either Time or Patience to conſult any farther the Merits of this Propoſal, ask, in Objection to it, what Occaſion the Government would have during the Time of a Peace, which may ſometimes hold very probably for ten or twenty Years, to encumber it ſelf with ſuch Numbers of a Set of People, who in their Opinion muſt be very unneceſſary; I ſhall requeſt of him, only his candid Peruſal of the Whole, and doubt not but to find him much better reconcil'd to me. To acquit my ſelf therefore as I have promiſed, I ſhall diſpoſe my Arguments for putting in Execution what I have advanc'd, and the Benefits which I conclude muſt neceſſarily ariſe from it, in the following Manner.

By the Advance-Money that ſhould be given, and the Certainty of not being diſmiſs'd, after any ſhort Expedition, from his Majeſty's Service, to make what Proviſion they can for themſelves, in that of others, the Number of Voluntiers that would immediately offer themſelves, would very quickly make up the Liſt propoſed; nor would the Manner, in which they ſhould be employ'd, even at thoſe Times, when the Fleet may have a Call but for

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a very Few of them, be a leſs Temptation for them to enter.

As his Majeſty's Docks and Yards do continually maintain a very large Number of Workmen in the ſeveral Articles relating to the Navy, one Part of the ſaid Seamen might with little Prejudice to the Hands already employ'd, be made uſe of in Time of Peace, in the Work there: At firſt, in ſuch Parts only of it, as may be moſt eaſily attain'd in a very little Time, till by Degrees they may arrive to ſuch a tolerable Knowledge in the others, as will not only enable them by the Money they ſhall earn, to maintain themſelves and Families very comfortably, but render them when requir'd to their original Province of Sailing, more uſeful and expert in the entire Management of every Particular belonging to the Ship; whilſt the other Part of them, or as many as there may be a Call for, provided it does not exceed one Half of the Number unemploy'd in his Majeſty's Fleet, ſhall have a Permit for a Year, to ſail in ſuch Veſſels as are Coaſters, or make ſhort Voyages, ſuch as to *France*, *Ireland*, *Norway*, &c. by which Means they will acquire ſuch perfect Knowledge of the many Rocks and Sands that almoſt entirely ſurround

round us, that they may prove, when ſummoned again into his Majeſty's Navy, of very important Uſe, even in the Quality of Pilots. And to prevent any Difficulty, or Diſpute, that may ariſe between the Maſters of ſuch Veſſels, and the King's Sailors, that want to ſhip themſelves on board them, the Merchants or Maſters bound for any ſuch Ports as above-mention'd, ſhall be oblig'd to receive into their Veſſels one Half of their Complement, of the King's Men, at the common Wages, who ſhall likewiſe have a written Power or Authority granted them, to ſhip themſelves on board any Coaſters or Veſſels, trading as before mention'd, in any Port of *Great Britain* where they are, provided they do not exceed the Number of other Hands ſhip'd on board of the ſaid Veſſels. A Regiſter may alſo be kept at every Port, of the Number of Hands each Veſſel ſhips, that the Government may be aſſured of the punctual and ready Compliance of the Merchants or Captains, in receiving one Half of their Complement of King's Men, without any Manner of Evaſion or Objection, if ſuch offer themſelves. And if it ſhould ſo chance, that many of theſe Sailors ſhould ſeek Employment all at the ſame Port, where there were Veſ-

ſels lying in Expectation of Hands, there may be ſuch Regulations, that no one Veſſel ſhould take in more than an equal Proportion of the ſaid Sailors. As for Inſtance, If three Veſſels lay in the ſame Port, ſuppoſing each Veſſel to carry ten Hands, and five of his Majeſty's Men ſhould offer themſelves only to one of theſe three Ships, they ſhall not be allowed to go all together in that one Veſſel, but ſhall diſtribute themſelves amongſt the three, and that Veſſel whoſe Lot it was to have but one, ſhall receive the next King's Man that comes to enter himſelf at that Port, as his fair Dividend. No Owners or Maſters of the Veſſels before-mention'd, ſhall prefer in their firſt Choice of the Hands they propoſe to ſhip, any other Sailors to thoſe belonging to his Majeſty; but if no Application is made from any of them, the Captains may be at their Diſcretion to receive others for the whole Voyage. And for the further Eaſe of the ſaid eſtabliſhed Number of Seamen, and to make them in every Degree more uſeful to the Government; after the Expiration of the Year, for which the Permit was granted to one Half of them to go into the Merchants Service, there may be an Exchange of Stations

for the ſame Length of Time, between them, and the other Half that were left and employ'd at Home. From hence, therefore, I ſhall dare to repeat what I have before aſſerted, *viz.* That the Grandeur and Security of the Nation will ſtand upon an immoveable and unperiſhable Baſis; and add, That the Inconveniences which the Merchants may otherwiſe ſuſtain, from having moſt of the Hands in their Veſſels, during the Time of a War, impreſs'd, perhaps, juſt as they are clearing-out for their Voyage, and loaden with Commodities which may be in Danger of being greatly damaged by ſuch a Retardment to their Sailing, will immediately vaniſh, and the Approach, or Declaration of a War, carry with it none of the ill Effects on the Apprehenſions of the trading People, which it may have at preſent. The Number of Sailors which the Government upon this Scheme may have occaſion to diſtribute amongſt them, ought, very far from being judg'd an Act of Compulſion, to be receiv'd as the ſtrongeſt Inſtance of its Lenity, Tenderneſs and Regard for their Intereſt. The King's Men, it is to be preſum'd, will be as good, if not better than what they may otherwiſe be oblig'd to take up with; nor, if any Exigency of

Affairs ſhould conſtrain the Government to call off its Men into its own Service, Can they poſſibly think the loſing a Part of their Complement an Hardſhip, as their Voyages will be ſo very ſhort, that they may have Time enough from the firſt Summons of his Majeſty for his Sailors to return, till the Time limited for ſuch Return (which may be three Weeks, or a Month) to provide themſelves with a Supply, and even without being neceſſitated to pay any ſuch exorbitant Wages, as the Scarcity and Timidity of the Seamen during the Time of a Preſs exacts from them? If, as I am inform'd by ſome Perſons, who pretend to have made a pretty exact Computation of the Number of Seamen employ'd in the home and neighbouring Trade, there may really be thirty Thouſand, then, were the whole eſtabliſh'd Number of his Majeſty's Seamen diſtributed equally among the Merchants, in the room of ſome of the others, ſuch Seamen would be but one Third of each Ship's Complement; ſo that the Merchants can neither ſcruple to receive ſo few, to the Prejudice of the other Sailors, nor think it any Grievance to part with them, when his Majeſty's Occaſions demand them. But I ſhall be cautious of

dwelling

dwelling too ſtrenuouſly on this Point, till I can get a better Light into the Truth of my Information; and ſhall therefore proceed upon the Plan I at firſt propoſed, and ſhew the other Benefits that would ariſe to almoſt every Branch of the Community, from ſuch an Eſtabliſhment.

As it is an inherent Principle in every *Engliſhman*, to ſubmit with Reluctance to any Thing that ſeems to carry a Check upon their Liberty, and free Choice, ſo I would not in this Engagement to his Majeſty's Service, have the Men conſtrained to bind themſelves up either for Life, or for a long Term of Years, but chuſe to leave it to their own Diſcretion, to quit the Service when they have an Inclination, on this eaſy and reaſonable Condition only, that they ſhall be oblig'd to give a Year's Notice of their Intention, on the Failure of which, proper Penalties may be thought of to be inflicted. Such an Engagement as this, will be no more than what is enter'd into almoſt every Day, between Man and Man, in every Branch or Kind of Buſineſs; but for their Encouragement, not only to enter, but to continue in the Service voluntarily, I could wiſh an eaſy Fund might be found out, whereby the Government might be

enabled

enabled to cloath them from Head to Foot, once in two Years; with a Badge of the Flag of *England*, as a peculiar and honourable Diſtinction, from all other Sailors: Thoſe Cloaths to be worn by ſuch as work in the Yards, only at ſuch Times as they ſhall be abſent from their Work.

So many brave and skilful Men all appearing in a national Livery, cannot but affect the Minds of every thinking *Britiſh* Spectator, with the moſt ſenſible Satisfaction, when he beholds the true Protectors of the Kingdom's Grandeur and Happineſs, ſo deſervedly cheriſhed; and every Foreigner will have the ſtrongeſt Sentiments as well of our Gratitude and Policy, as of our undoubted Security. The Men themſelves, when the Neceſſity of Affairs may have recourſe to a ſtrong Navy, will think themſelves under the greateſt Obligations, to repay with extraordinary Chearfulneſs and Bravery, ſuch extraordinary Marks of the Nation's Bounty and Regard for them. For the firſt three Years, any able Seamen may be admitted upon this Eſtabliſhment, not exceeding forty Years of Age, but after the ſaid three Years none ſhall exceed the Age of Thirty.

ty. And as a further Reward and Inducement for their long Continuance in the Service, it is propos'd, that thoſe who have ſerv'd for ſuch a Quantity of Years, or done ſuch Services as the Diſcretion of the Board of Admiralty, or the Commiſſioners ſhall judge worthy of it, ſhall receive a ſmall Penſion for Life, tho they are not any way diſabled in the Service; and in caſe any one of them leaves a Widow, ſhe ſhall enjoy for her Life one Moiety of what was before his Allowance; but if any of them quit the Service, and afterwards re-enter, they ſhould have but half the Benefit of the Time they ſerv'd before. And if any of them, whilſt in the Merchant's Service, ſhould by any Accident that might happen to the Veſſel, in uſing their Endeavours for its Safety, or otherwiſe, ſuſtain any Damage in their Limbs ſo as to render them incapable of earning their Bread as Sailors for the future, they ſhould be conſider'd notwithſtanding, as the King's Men, and receive the ſame Benefit of a Penſion, or the Hoſpital, as if they had ſuſtained ſuch Wounds or Damage in one of the King's own Ships. And at laſt, to all theſe conſiderable and tempting Advantages, I would join that great and moſt neceſſary

neceſſary Encouragement of all, the Certainty of having their Pay, whatever Capacity they ſerve in, whether in Merchant-Ships or the Government's own, on the moſt eaſy Regulations both to themſelves, their Creditors, Friends or Relations, who may be their Executors, or poſſeſs'd of their Powers of Attorney, without any unneceſſary Delays upon Account of unjuſt and vexatious Claims, and free from exorbitant and unwarrantable Deductions, which have been but too frequent a Practice in former Times.

During our Wars with the *French* in our late Reigns, Complaints of this Kind were ſo loud, ſo miſerable, and ſo numerous, that they pierc'd the Hearts of every *Engliſhman*, exepting ſuch as were the principal Authors of their Oppreſſion, and made a very guilty Gain from their Miſeries.

In that melancholly Time their Hardſhips, I have been aſſured, were as great, as if ſome of the Perſons to whom ſome Part of the Inſpection and Management of the Naval Affairs was entruſted, had been in an actual League with the *French* to deſtroy them.

That

That they were impreſs'd from their Callings at Home, or on their Return, perhaps, from a tedious *Eaſt India* Voyage, when they were big with the Hopes of refreſhing themſelves on Shore for a few Weeks, and regaining in their own Native Air, their Health and Vigour, which might be impair'd by a long Continuance in a Foreign Climate, was a Grievance that might eaſily allow of a Mitigation, and be render'd in ſome Part juſtifiable from the Neceſſities of the State at that time, provided they had not been forced into a Service, where, from the corrupt Management of ſome avaricious Perſons, there was not only an Uncertainty of receiving the Pay they ſhould be entituled to in ſuch Service, on any reaſonable Terms, but Danger of being ſhuffled out of the greateſt Part of it, together with a Probability, from too ſevere a Confinement on Board the Fleet (which was ſometimes for two or three Years togegether) of forfeiting by their Deaths the Benefit of what was due to them from the Merchants, from whoſe Service they were ſo abruptly taken, or leaving it at

leaſt a diſputable Legacy to their Widows or other Relations.

From this Inability of the Sailors to make ſuch convenient Returns of their Pay as would have been a comfortable Subſiſtance to their diſtreſſed Families, the Pariſhes were loaded with inſupportable Taxes for their Relief, whilſt the Purſers were ſuſpected and accus'd by the miſerable Sufferers of burthening the Sailors with large Demands for the little Conveniences they were obliged to take up of them, that ſome, when they had the Favour of having their Accounts in ſome manner ſtated, had not, perhaps, one Farthing to receive.

To this manifeſt Diſcouragement of the Sailors, when on Board, was owing the abſolute Neceſſity of impreſſing them during all thoſe Wars, in ſuch a violent manner, that he who could hide himſelf from the diligent Purſuit of a Preſs Gang, thought it as great a Happineſs, even though he was almoſt ſtarving all the while, as if he had eſcap'd falling into the Hands of an *Algerine* Rover

Rover; and the Merchants have been obliged to advance their Wages from Four and Twenty Shillings to Fifty Shillings a Month *per* Man, after the Inconvenience of waiting a long time, before even that will be a Temptation for any of them to venture. Nor were the Colliers forc'd to give leſs extravagant Hire in Proportion for the bringing their Veſſels up the River.

I mention theſe Inconveniencies, which in the Times before-named affected not only the Merchants and the Seamen, but the whole Nation, not ſo much as an Handle for a general Declamation againſt the Cuſtom of impreſſing Men into his Majeſty's Fleet, as from a melancholly Reflection, that the ſad Oeconomy at that time us'd in diſtributing their due Encouragement to each Sailor, ſhould force the Government to ſuch rough Meaſures, as it then did, to obtain an able One. Whereas had it been otherwiſe, and each Man known how to come at what he had earn'd, in a leſs dilatory and diſadvantageous Manner, I ſincerely believe that above half the Money that was allow'd for impreſſing

Men had been ſav'd, and that abundance of Seamen would have thought the Glory of ſerving in the Navy preferable to ſome Advanc'd Wages they might gain from the Merchants.

Far be it from me to imagine, any Power in *Europe*, or even more Powers than one, formidable enough to maintain the Appearance of a War with *England* at this Time, for one Twelvemonth, much leſs for ſuch a Continuance as was that of the late King *William*'s, who found too many Home Enemies in Confederacy with thoſe Abroad, to embarraſs his glorious Deſigns for the Welfare of all *Europe*.

I am likewiſe as confident, that the Men in his Majeſty's Service at this time have not the leaſt Grounds for Complaint of any of the above-mentioned Hardſhips or Impoſitions on them in the Receipt of their Pay, from the Diligence, Integrity and Publick Spirit of Thoſe who ſo worthily preſide at the Admiralty-Board; and on that Account, were ſuch an Eſtabliſhment as I have pro-

propoſed, to take Place, I could not avoid wiſhing, that the ſame prudent and generous Methods that are at preſent taken by them, for the Welfare of the Sailors, may be continued to ſucceeding Ages, by the Influence of their Example.

Thus far have I proceeded on what I judg'd of moſt Conſequence in the Foundation of an Eſtabliſhment of Ten Thouſand able Sailors *in perpetuum* for his Majeſty's Navy; and ſhall ſubmit the Arguments I have uſed for promoting it, to the more able Conſideration of thoſe, who have it in their Hearts, as well as in their Power, to do every Thing that may contribute to the Welfare of the Nation.

And ſhould any of the Methods I have ventur'd to lay down for executing what I propoſed, appear to the Judgment of others, not ſo entirely Practicable, as I have the Zeal to imagine they may be, I am confident, the numerous Advantages which I preſaged from it, for the Good of my King and Country (and which alone prompted me to this preſent

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Attempt) will render any Errors of that Zeal pardonable.

To be ſo well fortified in that moſt valuable Branch of *Great Britain*'s Security, (its Maritime Force) as not only to be in a conſtant Readineſs to engage in a War, but from the Reputation of ſuch an Armament, in a Capacity to prevent the Approaches of one, appear'd to me ſuch a deſirable Bleſſing, that no Difficulties ought to diſcourage any true and honeſt Lover of his Country, from uſing his utmoſt Abilities to obtain it.

To give a chearful and ſuiting Encouragement to the Sailors, is no more than an Act of Juſtice and Gratitude, due to them as our Protectors, and of Prudence to our ſelves, as being protected and aggrandiz'd by them. And I engag'd the more ſtrenuouſly in Favour of this one Point, as it is but too manifeſt, That from a Deficiency of ſuch Encouragement, and the Want of Means to make ſome certain Proviſion for them, after they are diſcharged from on Board the Fleet, many, out of the Numbers

that

that are unemploy'd, at the ſame Time, are oblig'd to go into foreign Service, that only great and dangerous Poſſibility of rendring our preſent Superiority over all other Nations, precarious for the Future; ev'ry foreign Realm whoſe Intereſt it is to turn its Genius to maritime Affairs, ſearching diligently after, and receiving greedily *Engliſh* Seamen, preferable to thoſe of their own, or any other Nation; whilſt others of them, too frequently from a Dearth of Employment, are tempted to ſupply their Neceſſities by Plundering, Robbing in the Streets, breaking-open Houſes, *&c.* too notorious an Evidence of which, is, that at almoſt ev'ry Seſſions at the *Old-Bailey*, there has been generally one or more Seamen amongſt the People convicted of capital Crimes; nor can the Increaſe of Pirates but in ſome Degree be attributed to this Misfortune. A Prevention therefore of theſe Grievances is to be wiſh'd, as much for the Security of the Government, as for the Eaſe of the People.

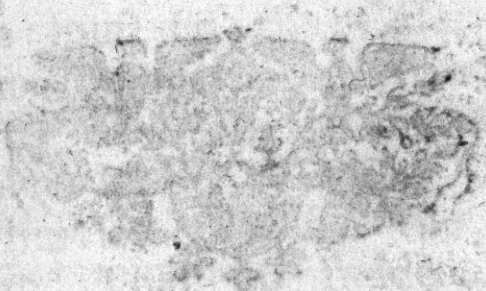
That the Merchants ſhould ſuffer as little as poſſible either from the Damage done to their Goods, or their

their loſing ſome Part of the Benefit of the foreign Markets, from being detained too long in their home Ports, by the Seiſure of their Men, or by being obliged to give extravagant Wages for Seamen, who perhaps may be only Foreigners, old Men, or Boys, as few others will venture themſelves during the Time of a Preſs, ſhould be the ſpeedieſt Caution of a Government, whoſe Revenue is ſo much intereſted in the flouriſhing or oppreſs'd Condition of the trading Part of the Nation.

That the Pariſhes ſhould not be overburthen'd by an extraordinary Charge of Poor, which muſt be the Caſe, when Perſons, who are perhaps ſettled in a tolerable Way of Buſineſs, able to ſupport themſelves and Families, are involuntarily hurried on Board the Fleet; and in ſhort, That no ſudden Preparations for a War, ſhould be of ſuch ill Conſequence to the meaner Sort of People, as to diminiſh the Benefit of what they earn by hard Labour, by creating any advanc'd Prices on the moſt common Neceſſaries, demands the Conſideration of their Superiors, not leſs from Humanity, than Policy.

Thus,

Thus, as I have before ſaid, from ſuch Regards as theſe being ſhewn for the Strength of the Kingdom, and the Felicity of all the Members of it, every Thing muſt flouriſh in the moſt delightful Manner: The Sovereign continue fortify'd againſt all Attempts of his Enemies, and the People ready to make him the moſt grateful Returns for their Proſperity.



POSTSCRIPT.

AS the Expedient above propos'd, though approv'd of, cannot be put in Practice to anſwer any preſent Occaſion there may be for Seamen at this Time, I ſhall humbly ſubmit it to the Conſideration of the Board of Admiralty, Whether ſome ſmall Bounty-Money to be advanc'd both to the Voluntiers, and to the Men impreſs'd (the Voluntiers notwithſtanding to be regarded preferable to the others,

others, though not more able or expert in Sea-Affairs) would not have theſe good Effects, both to encourage the Men who enter freely, and to extenuate the Hardſhips of thoſe who are impreſs'd? As likewiſe, Whether a Diſtinction in the Wages of Voluntiers and impreſs'd Men, though both equally Good, would not very much leſſen the Occaſion for impreſſing them at all? As the *Dutch* have let us know for a long time that their Fiſhery is their principal Support, were the ſame to be heartily followed by *Great Britain*, we may join to the other Advantages that would ariſe from it, the Certainty of having always a large Employment and Nurſery for a very conſiderable Number of fit and able Seamen.

And ſince I have hinted the Neceſſity of a Fund for maintaining Ten Thouſand Seamen, in the manner I could wiſh they were eſtabliſhed, (though I am of Opinion, that the Merchants would rather petition for a Tax to be levied on the Tonage of Shipping, or otherwiſe, as might be thought proper,

per, than continue lyable to the Inconveniencies they ſuſtain from the Meaſures that are taken to impreſs their Sailors) I ſhall offer ſome Means whereby I am pretty poſitive every Article of the Expence of it may be defray'd, without the leaſt reaſonable Cauſe of Complaint from any one Member of the Kingdom.

Were the Lords of the Admiralty to be empower'd by Act of Parliament to drain and encloſe ſuch of the waſte and direlict Lands as they can find Purchaſers for on Leaſe for a Term of Years, at ——— *per Acre*, reſerving or allowing to the Lord of the Manor, or the Perſons who have the Right of Commonage, ——— *per Acre*, ſome Part of the Amount of the Rents of them would be ſufficient to anſwer the whole Charge of this Eſtabliſhment.

And as the ſupplying *Greenwich* Hoſpital with a ſuitable Fund, to perfect the good Deſign of that Inſtitution, was re-

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commended by his moſt Gracious Majeſty the Seſſion of Parliament before this, another Part might be appropriated for that Uſe, whilſt no inconſiderable Surplus would remain to be return'd into the Treaſury towards the ſinking Fund.

So glorious and extenſive a Profit being abſolutely taken into the Government's Hands, will entirely put an end to any Diſputes that may ariſe from the Multiplicity of Petitioners for them, and be only Matter of Complaint to ſuch, who having Eſtates contiguous to them, have unlawfully engroſs'd ſome Part; and his Majeſty have an Opportunity of beſtowing the Benefit of them on the Sailors, who, of all other Perſons, appear to have the ſtrongeſt Title to them, as they are a Legacy from an Element on which they have their chiefeſt Dependance.

N. B. As there are abundance of Acres, that are almoſt covered with Water, ſome Part of the Ten Thouſand

ſand eſtabliſh'd Sailors might be employed in draining them. I have ſome more Thoughts of a Publick Nature, which I ſhall take an Opportunity to offer on a fitting Occaſion.

FINIS.

find enabling a Sailors might be employed in draining them. I have some more Thoughts of a Public Nature, which I shall take an Opportunity to offer on a fitting Occasion.

FINIS.